



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

PHILIPPINES

INVESTING IN PEOPLE: EDUCATION

2008



USAID is helping improve the quality of basic education in Mindanao. Small grants to local municipalities are funding the purchase of additional books and other learning materials.

(Photo: USAID/EQuaLLs)

PHILIPPINES SNAPSHOT

Date of independence: 1946

Population: 88.6 million
(2007 census)

Annual income per person: \$1,170

Source: World Bank Development Indicators 2006

USAID IN THE PHILIPPINES

<http://philippines.usaid.gov>

OVERVIEW

Public education in the Philippines is at a crossroads. There are large-scale shortages of teachers, desks and chairs, textbooks and audio-video materials. Overcrowded classrooms are common with class sizes averaging almost 45 students. The education system is hampered by inadequate teacher training programs and declining per capita expenditure. For every student in school, there is another school-aged child who has either never attended school or has dropped out. These problems are particularly acute in the conflict-affected areas of Mindanao

In response, USAID is training teachers and providing computers, textbooks, and other materials to schools. By improving the instruction of math, science, and English in Mindanao's public schools, USAID is increasing access to quality education and livelihood skills in areas most affected by conflict and poverty.

USAID also provides out-of-school children and youth the opportunity to improve their literacy and math competencies and equip them with the necessary vocational, technical and entrepreneurial skills that will enable them to return to formal schooling, be employed or self-employed.

PROGRAMS

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

USAID partners with the Philippine Department of Education (DepEd), DepEd-ARMM, the U.S. Peace Corps, and other organizations from the private sector, including the Educational Development Center, the International Youth Foundation; Save the Children-Philippines; Synergeia Foundation; Petron Foundation and Brother's Brother Foundation.

USAID's private sector alliances will double the resources available for assistance to the Philippine education sector. By joining with such private sector groups—corporations, foundations, and NGOs—USAID also brings additional creativity, energy, and expertise to its education programs.

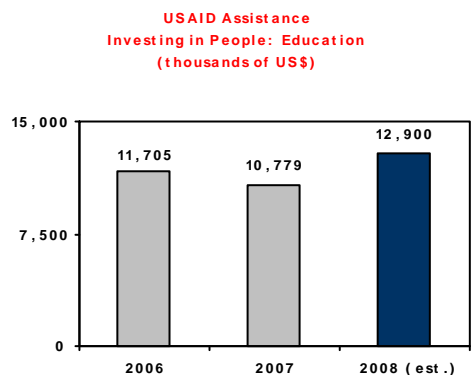


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USAID is supporting out-of-school youth by preparing them to return to school or providing livelihood training and employment opportunities.

(Photo: USAID/EquALLS)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

To reduce instability in conflict-prone areas in Mindanao, USAID is preparing tens of thousands of out-of-school youth to return to the formal education system and providing thousands of others with employable skills.

PARENTS AND COMMUNITIES SUPPORTING EDUCATION

USAID is encouraging greater participation by parents and communities in the education of their children through a matching grants program for school improvements. USAID is supportive of national and local policies that value the role of education in a country's development by government and private sector spending on education and ensuring more efficient use of available resources.

TEACHER TRAININGS AND LEARNING MATERIALS

USAID is partnering with the United States Peace Corps and local private sector firms to increase the quality of basic education and provide training to educators to improve the teaching of English, science and math. USAID's education program is providing more than two million textbooks and other learning materials to elementary school students and out-of-school youth through a partnership with the U.S. military, which delivers the donated materials to remote communities. USAID is also introducing computer and internet education into schools in Mindanao to connect young minds to the wider world.